

CLOUD LIFTS

AFTER a lethargic and spiritless first-half, Wycombe Wanderers produced something like their Ilford form, to beat Letchworth Town 5-2, in an East Anglian Cup match at Letchworth on Wednesday.

In the first half Wycombe played as if they were under some kind of cloud, as indeed they were; for as they slumped to 2-0 down the rain-clouds rolled up.

But after half-time the clouds burst and the Wycombe players responded. After only three minutes a free kick from Dave Thomas was converted by wee George Blair.

Ten minutes later Len Worley put in a shot the goalkeeper was unable to stop. After 65 minutes Mick Rockell scored the goal of the match, with a tremendous volley, after a wonderful through pass from skipper Worley.

Two more goals from Blair knocked all the spirit out of the tiring Letchworth side, and Wycombe ran out clear winners.

Wycombe, who were without centre-forward Peter James, suffering from an ankle injury received at Ilford, introduced young Irish winger Mike O'Neill, and switched Rockell to centre-forward. O'Neill had a very quiet game but showed he was a very fast player.

John Fisher had a tough duel with bustling centre-forward Chandler, while John Beck and Alistair Lewis were continually harassed by the Letchworth wingers. But Dave Thomas and Colin Gale, covered and foraged superbly.

Of the forwards, Blair, a smaller version of Ron Fryer, did a tremendous amount of work, while Worley, Rockell and Holmes all moved intelligently.